

Oleoresin Capsicum (Pepper) Spray Bylaw

Transport and Sales Regulation at the
Municipal level



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Overview

- Oleoresin Capsicum (Pepper) Spray is a defensive weapon in an aerosol spray canister which contains chemical irritants.
 - Bear Spray is a type of Oleoresin Capsicum manufactured to target large animals and therefore covers a larger area and is of higher concentration.
- A discharge of any Oleoresin Capsicum Spray, especially Bear Spray, has an impact on resources for: Edmonton Fire Rescue Services, Emergency Medical Services and the Edmonton Police Service.
- The discharge of Oleoresin Capsicum Spray also has impacts on the use of dwellings, businesses and Transit.

Overview – Carry/Transport

- Oleoresin Capsicum Spray often seized by EPS or other law enforcement stakeholders has been manipulated to cover/remove the manufacturer label/recommendations and the prescribed safety device is often removed or not in use.
- Federal and Provincial legislation does not provide law enforcement stakeholders with a suitable remedy to deal with defaced and unsafe Oleoresin Capsicum at the time of contact.
- Although the statistics are based on criminal occurrences, we are looking to regulate the public nuisance aspect of a non criminal discharge of Oleoresin Capsicum Sprays.

**EPS seized
Oleonresin
Capsicum spray
products**



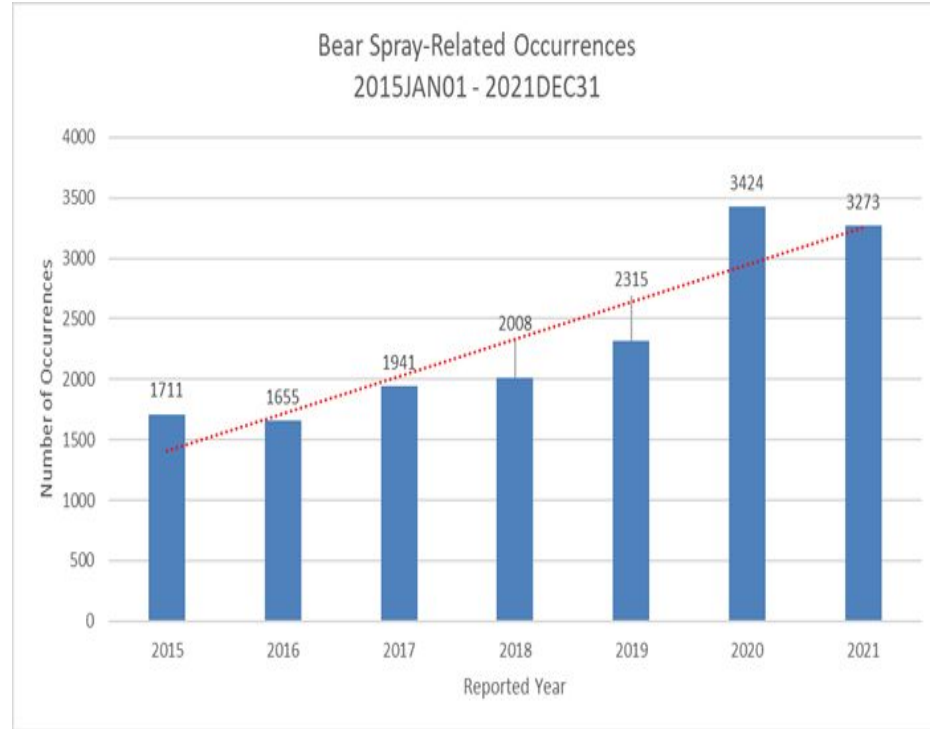
Photo received from Property Exhibit Unit (EPS) 2019APR23

Overview – Sales

- Sales of non-prohibited Oleoresin Capsicum spray products occur at sporting good/camping stores as well as convenience stores.
- No specific regulation compelling businesses to ensure sales are to persons over 18 or regulating the information that must be collected or stored.
- Provincial regulations are based off manufacturer labels.
- We are looking for Municipal regulation of sales to provide clear direction to all sellers.

Statistics

- General upward trend from 2015.
- 2021 saw an increase of approximately 91% from 2015.
 - 3273 vs 1711
- Dramatic increase since 2019



Statistics

- Majority of occurrences are not in greenspace areas.
- High number of occurrences near Transit location
 - 62% within 100m of a bus stop

Location Type & Distance	Number of Occurrences	Percent of Total Occurrences
100m of a Bus Stop	8336	62%
400m of a School	6209	46%
50m of a Bus Stop	4356	32%
500m of LRT Station centroid	2670	20%
400m of a Jr/Sr High School	2016	15%
300m of LRT Station centroid	1500	11%
100m of LRT Line	1310	10%
100m of LRT Station centroid	460	3%
Park/greenspace	301	2%

Conclusion

- Oleoresin Capsicum spray discharges affect emergency services resources/delivery, businesses, transit and dwellings.
- We require a remedy to prevent the non criminal discharge and carry of Oleoresin Capsicum spray.
- We are asking for a bylaw focused on the seller and individual purchaser that incorporates the safety features that the Federal and Provincial government have deemed appropriate at the commercial and manufacturing level, to the Municipal level.

THANK YOU

Questions?

